

**STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
BOARD WORKSHOP SESSION – DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY
APRIL 21, 2020**

ITEM 6

SUBJECT

WORKSHOP ON THE DRAFT AMENDMENT TO THE WATER QUALITY CONTROL POLICY ON THE USE OF COASTAL AND ESTUARINE WATERS FOR POWER PLANT COOLING FOR EXTENSION OF COMPLIANCE SCHEDULES OF ALAMITOS, HUNTINGTON BEACH, ORMOND BEACH, AND REDONDO BEACH GENERATING STATIONS

DISCUSSION

This is a workshop to provide an opportunity for open discussion between the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) members, staff, and members of the public regarding the proposed amendment to the Water Quality Control Policy on the Use of Coastal and Estuarine Waters for Power Plant Cooling (Once-Through Cooling or OTC Policy). Staff will give a short presentation on the proposed amendment at the beginning of the workshop.

If approved, the proposed amendment would extend the compliance dates for Alamitos, Huntington Beach, and Ormond Beach Generating Stations to December 31, 2023, and Redondo Beach Generating Station to December 31, 2021 to address system-wide grid reliability concerns as new procurement comes online over the next three years. The current OTC Policy compliance date for all four plants is December 31, 2020.

The proposed amendment would also amend the compliance date for Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant Units 1 and 2 by reducing Unit 1 by two months and extending Unit 2 by 8 months to November 2, 2024, and August 26, 2025, respectively. These revisions match the expiration date of each unit's Nuclear Regulatory Commission operating license, as requested by the Pacific Gas & Electric Company as part of its plan to retire Diablo Canyon. Additionally, the proposed amendment would improve the readability of the OTC Policy and comply with document accessibility requirements.

The proposed amendment is based on the preferred recommendation of the Statewide Advisory Committee on Cooling Water Intake Structures (SACCWIS), approved in the committee's January 23, 2020 report, *Recommended Compliance Date Extensions for Alamitos, Huntington Beach, Ormond Beach, and Redondo Beach Generating Stations*. The OTC Policy requires the SACCWIS to periodically convene to ensure that implementation of the OTC Policy will not cause disruption in the State of California's electrical power supply.

POLICY ISSUE

This is a board workshop to provide an opportunity for an open discussion between the State Water Board members, staff, and members of the public regarding the proposed amendment. No final actions regarding the proposed amendment to the OTC Policy will be made at this workshop.

FISCAL IMPACT

There will be no fiscal impact at this time, as this item is an informational workshop.

REGIONAL BOARD IMPACT

The Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board and the Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board staff are concurrently preparing proposed revisions to National Pollution Discharge Elimination System permits, related time schedule orders, and the San Gabriel River Metals Total Maximum Daily Load (Alamitos Generating Station only) in the event that the proposed extensions for the aforementioned generating stations are adopted by the State Water Board.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

No staff recommendation will be made at this time.